

From: deej@thayer.dartmouth.edu@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR,deej@thayer.dartmouth.edu@inetgw
Date: 1/24/02 5:30pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I think the proposed DOJ settlement is completely inadequate, and does not come close to stopping Microsoft from continuing to abuse its monopoly position. Please, please reconsider before allowing this current settlement to pass. The proposed modifications made by the states do improve upon the DOJ settlement, but should perhaps be even stronger in the proposed limitations.

I believe that the only way to truly allow competition to Microsoft is to have Microsoft make public the specifications that their software uses to communicate with their operating systems and other applications. Note that this is not asking for the source code for Microsoft software, but rather the information necessary to allow other software to interact with Microsoft's software. Examples of this would be the details of the file formats used in saving Microsoft Word .doc files so that other software, such as StarOffice, could be used to read and write .doc files; network server communications used between the client desktop OS (like Windows XP) and the servers - this would allow programs such as Samba to cleanly interact with Windows clients and other Microsoft servers; specifications used to allow applications like Microsoft Office to interact with the Windows XP operating system - this would allow programs like WINE to be used as an alternative to Windows XP and allow Windows applications to run under other operating systems such as Linux.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

-Dj

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